Soccer

NEWS

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The Official Organ of the
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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America Gets Lessons

FROM CHARLES BUCHAN'S "FOOTBALL MONTHLY"

The American Soccer League officials who were over in Glasgow for the Scotland-United States match—Messrs. Jim McGuire and Erno Schwarcz—are very anxious to have Rangers in 1954. The Americans refuse to be depressed by their Hampden thrashing and they'll continue to invite British teams.

Indeed, when you hear what the Americans are proposing you will easily conclude that what I am about to tell you is their greatest bid to put the game over — or to perish in the attempt.

For years they have failed to entice the American public by their schedules of club matches. "We have been trying to build from the bottom," says Erno Schwarcz. "Now we are going to build down the way — from the top."

They have invited the Scottish F.A. — and a similar offer is being made to the F.A. — to play a Scotland-England match at the Yankee Stadium, New York, next October or November, and have offered each Association 50,000 dollars by way of a guarantee. That's about £17,500.

By that time baseball will be finished and the Americans believe they could pack the Yankee Stadium — the rent of which will be £2500.

It seems to me an answer to those cynical ones who said the Americans only came to Hampden for the gate. Their share at Hampden would be around £6000, half of which went in expenses.

They are convinced a Scotland-England game would give football the boost it needs in New York, and in America as a whole. But how will Scotland and England respond?

At that time the two countries are immersed in League fixtures, and even the plan of travelling by air and doing the whole job in a week will take a bit of accepting.

There is not much doubt that if Americans took up football seriously they would, with all their thoroughness and financial resources, proceed to rule the world — just as they rule in golf and boxing.

Their team at Hampden was outclassed, and yet, with British coaching and training, they could be improved out of recognition. Not surprisingly McGuire and Schwarcz have now turned from the idea of recruiting British players and are wondering how and where they could find the coaches and the trainers.

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Editorial

All communications re Soccer News must be sent to the Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 42 Nelson Street, Sandringham, S.8, by first post on Monday.

This week we must ask our readers' indulgence if things are not quite up to scratch. The sudden illness of our Editor has left things in the air somewhat and particularly we must ask those correspondents who wrote in for information to forgive us if they have had no reply.

The replayed Moreland-Juventus Cup-tie was once more a tense struggle. With Moreland one goal up at half-time, the Juventus side came back in the second half to win 2-1. Moreland, nevertheless, have proved their fitness to play in the First Division next year.

Other games went pretty well as expected, with the exception of Pukka Rovers' defeat of Slovakia.

Cup games this week seem pretty open and shut, with the exception of Prahran-Box Hill, which could be anyone's game on present form.

Juventus should beat Apollo and Sunshine United should not be troubled by Moorabbin. Other winners should be Polonia and J.U.S.T.

Postponed League games to be played this week can have a deciding effect on several League tables. In Division I, Yallourn visit Footscray, who need a win to stay in that Division next year. However, as this kind of thing is second nature to Footscray, we tip that club to win.

Ulsterville need a win over White Eagles to go up to Division II next year instead of White Eagles themselves who at present tie in second place.

Maccabi will win Division IV if they beat Union Jack today—a task which should not be beyond them.

It will be noticed that the size of Soccer News has been reduced as usual at this time of the season. With the number of clubs knocked out of the cup and no longer playing it is impossible to keep up a sufficient circulation to justify the larger size normally produced. A special Cup Final number will appear later in the season.

We request all country associations secretaries to let us know when their final fixtures are played so that we may discontinue supplies when it is no longer possible for their clubs to sell them.

NOTE

As our columnist, Rex Benson, is on his honeymoon this week (you lucky people) there will be no Home and Away this issue.

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Letter To The Editor

Sir,—I wish to congratulate the clubs on their decision to endorse the Council's action in engaging a qualified coach from overseas.

I listened with interest to the various speakers at the special meeting on 19/8/52. Three of these speakers, each of whom was against the Council, all made the point that we must crawl before we walk; this, Mr. Editor, fascinated me. How truly has the soccer code followed this percept. We crawled in 1919, were still crawling in 1926, although at that time we did make a blind stumble to our feet and took a few hesitant steps—mainly sideways. When 1930 arrived we were still crawling and were being kicked by various bodies on the spot appropriate for crawlers, namely, the seat of our pants. By 1939 our crawl still continued—**backwards.** The war intervened and during this period soccer practically stopped.

And then a miracle happened. By 1948-49 we were actually walking, with the loyal and effective assistance from our new citizens we continued to walk, in fact, at times almost trotted, and now in this year of grace, 1952, to cap it all, we have a Council who has produced a plan. This plan must beget action; right now the door leading to progress is just ajar—we can even see a glimpse of the road ahead. Let us all get behind the Council and push this door wide open; if we don't, then it will close again as it did in 1926, never to reopen in our lifetime.—Yours, etc., H. V. ROSE.

NOTE

In view of the conflicting rumours regarding our Editor's sudden illness, ranging from duodenal ulcers and the loss of one eye to alcoholic poisoning, it is felt advisable to state that our Ed. suffered a sudden haemorrhage of the nose in the early hours of last Saturday morning, which necessitated a 2 a.m. dash to the Eye and Ear Hospital. When last heard of he was well on his way to recovery and is expected to be on the job again today. "Dicko" loves to give his friends these scares.

Ivan Kuketz

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Around the Clubs

FRANKSTON

Last Saturday, Frankston played Dandenong in the League series and after a tense struggle emerged victorious, 3 goals to nil.

After five minutes, Frankston had the misfortune to lose their centre half, L. Wilkes and, until he returned fifteen minutes later, they were all at sea. However, when he returned, Frankston settled down.

In the second half, Frankston re-arranged their forward line and this proved successful, as after 20 minutes P. Ims scored. Then came a shock for Dandenong when J. Ellams scored the second goal for Frankston. This seemed to put further heart to Frankston and J. Ellams scored the third and final goal after he beat the goalkeeper to the ball. The final whistle came with the Frankston defence still stopping all Dandenong's attempts to score.

As Frankston have still to meet Dandenong again in the league soccer, enthusiasts could do worse than travel to Dandenong to witness the game. It will certainly be a game worth watching. Thanks for a clean game "Dandy."

VICTORIA POLICE

The game with Ringwood had an end-of-the-season touch about it. Tackling was brisk and hard throughout with both defences on top. Both attacking forward lines were disjointed by keen tackling defenders, and flashes of good constructive football only came in short spasms. The Police excelled in defensive positional play. The young Ringwood team has a good soccer future in front of it. Many thanks to both sides for a good, hard game. Final result, Police, 2; Ringwood, 0.—J. E. BELL.

If you want to have soccer played at your school, write or ring the Director of School Soccer, Mr. V. J. M. Dixon, WX 4134, 42 Nelson Street, Sandringham, S.8. He will endeavor to help you achieve that ambition.

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Border District Association

On Saturday, in a very one-sided match, Albury City beat Bandiana Reds, 8 goals to 1.

Reds were first to score and held City to 2-1 at half-time, but tired badly in the second half, and City team scored whenever they liked.

Jack Thomas, playing his last game for Albury City (having been transferred to Queensland) was handed the captaincy of the team by Gerry Krieger (the usual captain). Jack finished off a successful season by him by scoring a goal in the last few minutes of the match. Best of luck in Queensland, Jack; some club is going to be lucky in obtaining a star left-back.

The other games, Mt. Beauty v. Wodonga and Albury Blacks v. Bandiana, were abandoned owing to the weather and the state of the grounds. —C. MARTIN.

Cobram Soccer Club

COBRAM TROUNCE SHEPPARTON

Before a large crowd at the showgrounds on Sunday, August 17, Cobram defeated Shepparton United, 5-0, in a fast, clean game. Centre-forward, Jimmy Purden, scored Cobram's first goal after 10 minutes of play. Beter Brubaart got the second goal from the penalty in the 35th minute. This completed the scoring in that half. After the interval Ivo Palla scored an acrobatic goal with his back to the net. A. Mosca and Peter Brubaart also scored before the end. The Cobram team again showed good form and all the players are to be congratulated on a fine match and good win. Shepparton were very sporting losers and the crowd thoroughly enjoyed the game. The referee was Mr. Ron Blake, of St. James.—G. MUSCARELLA.

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Peninsula Soccer Association

Before a large crowd last Saturday, the Cup Final was played, and what a match. (All yer lifetime yer never see such a match.)

It was played on the Rosebud Oval. At 3.5 p.m. after the Army Apprentices' Band had completed an excellent display of marching and music, the two opposing teams trotted on to the field, led by their captains, amidst applause from the crowd. The teams were Rosebud and Army School Signals. After the usual line up and the handshake by Mr. N. Rothfield, vice-president of the V.A.S.F.A., the kick off was 3.15 sharp.

Play swayed from one end to the other, the game was fast and furious, for both teams were very evenly matched. After 20 minutes of play, Moulder, of the Signals, scored the first goal of the match, but at half-time the score was 2-2.

The second half, like the first, was fast and furious. During this half both teams added two more goals each to their scores and at full time the score was 4-4. An extra 10 minutes each way was played, but when that extra time was up the score was still 4-4. After a consultation in the centre of the field, it was decided to play on until the next goal was scored and that would be the winner. The game went on for about another 20 minutes, but the players had played themselves to a standstill. The referee stopped the game and ordered a replay.

The Cup Final replay will be at Mornington this afternoon, kick-off being at 2.45. Refreshments will be served on the ground.

The goalscorers were: Rosebud, McCutchion (2), Turnbull and Ocklesshaw; and for Signals: D. Evans (2) and Moulder (2). The referee was Mr. Nuttall, and the linesmen Mr. L. Lockwood and Mr. Kerr.—V. E. LOCKWOOD.

Junior Section

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS CUP FINAL

In a Homeric struggle at South Melbourne last Wednesday week, Oakleigh defeated Prahran. At half-time there was no score. In the second half Prahran attacked strongly and gave the Oakleigh defence a torrid time, finally scoring after about 20 minutes of play. With two minutes to go Oakleigh equalised the score.

Extra time was ordered. Sixty seconds before the close of the third extra session, Oakleigh scored again. It was attack, attack all the time, with both goalkeepers performing miracles.

It was a fast and friendly game all through, with the closeness of the scores reflecting the evenness of the play. Had Lady Luck (a fickle jade sometimes) smiled a little more on one team than the other, had either goalie been a shade off his game, had some of the shots that hit the post been an inch or two closer, the scores might well have shown a three or four goal margin either way.

It was a match to look back on, and a grand finish to the season.

PRESTON CHURCHES

Soccer is now being played by Church teams. On Preston's ground last Saturday, Moreland Salvation Army played St. John's Church of England, East Coburg. The teams were under 15 and gave a good exhibition. The St. John's team was in the hands of Mr. G. Williams, 14 Spring Street, Coburg, and the Moreland Salvation Army team had Master Ray Belt, 72 Barrow Street, East Brunswick, to look after them. We have invited the St. John's team along for next season when we will give them all the help we can, so if there are any soccer-minded men in Brunswick or Moreland, who can give the Army lads a hand, young Ray would like to hear from them.—V. HAYES.

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SOUTH MELBOURNE UNITED

South Melbourne United Junior team (Under 19) played Sandringham Juniors at Brighton and won a very exciting game, 2 goals to 1. It was a semi-final game and all players kept their heads and never played the man. The players made the ball their objective.—JACK GUTHRIE.

Slade, the Under 17 Preston's goalie, is teaching the forwards how to kick goals. On Sunday, August 17, while playing against Charleston (N.S.W.) at Preston, he cleared his goal with a long kick. With the aid of the strong wind the ball beat the goalie at the other end.

INTERSTATE JUNIOR CARNIVAL

The final will be played tomorrow, Sunday, August 31, at Olympic Park, No. 1 Oval, at 1.30 p.m. This game will be followed by Juventus (First Division winners) v Polonia (Third Division winners) at 3 p.m.

INTER-ASSOCIATION CUPS

Next Saturday, September 6, Metropolitan Under 14, Under 15 and Under 17 teams will visit Yallourn, to compete against teams from the Central Gippsland Junior Association. These visits are annual and teams of both associations compete for the Inter-Association Cups. The Under 14 Cup last season was won by Melbourne, and the Under 17 Cup by Central Gippsland. The Under 15 teams will take part for the first time, and a new cup has been provided for this event. Buses will leave the Y.M.C.A. at 8.45 a.m. sharp.

STATE SCHOOL SOCCER

For the last seven weeks, soccer has been under way at the Hutton Street State School, Thornbury. A team was formed and the boys were all very keen. Last week a game was arranged with Wales Street, but unfortunately something went wrong and Wales Street failed to turn up. Owing to the end of the season and holidays, soccer has now been suspended until next season. However, several boys showed excellent promise. Hiam as centre-forward, Barter as goalkeeper, Macnab as centre-half and our two New Australian boys known as John and William, of course were naturals. Apart from the latter the rest were Australian and had never seen or played soccer before. Soccer fans will hear more of this school next season, I assure you.—DENIS CHAMBERS.

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First Division

As at August 2, 1952

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Juventus	17	12	5	0	60	19	29
Brighton	18	11	5	2	58	36	27
J.U.S.T.	16	9	5	2	60	27	23
Box Hill	18	9	4	5	50	33	22
Yallourn	16	6	3	7	34	34	15
Prahran	18	6	3	9	37	59	15
Park Rangers	18	6	2	10	35	46	14
South Yarra	18	2	7	9	19	44	11
Footscray City	17	2	5	10	21	47	9
Sunshine United	18	3	3	12	24	53	9

Second Division

As at August 23, 1952

Moreland	17	16	0	1	103	22	32
Melb. Hakoah	18	16	0	2	92	29	32
Preston	17	9	1	7	38	29	19
Int. Harvester	18	9	1	8	29	46	19
Sandringham City	18	8	2	8	51	46	18
Sunshine City	18	6	2	10	33	48	14
F.N.D.	18	6	2	10	24	60	14
South Melbourne	18	6	0	12	37	45	12
George Cross	18	6	0	12	24	56	12
Coburg United	18	3	0	15	28	78	6

Coburg United and George Cross relegated to Third Division

Third Division

As at August 9, 1952

Polonia	18	18	0	0	89	8	36
White Eagles	17	10	4	3	53	26	24
Ulsterville	17	11	1	5	57	27	23
Moorabbin City	18	10	3	5	41	24	23
Fairfield	18	11	0	7	43	38	22
Williamstown	18	9	2	7	35	30	20
University	18	5	3	10	32	57	13
Woodlands	17	3	0	14	10	53	6
Royal Caledonians	18	2	1	15	17	64	5
Olympic	17	1	2	14	13	63	4

Fourth Division

As at August 23, 1952

Maccabi	18	15	1	2	77	26	31
Frankston	17	12	2	3	80	22	26
Dandenong Rovers	17	12	1	4	68	29	25
Maribyrnong	15	10	1	4	45	32	21
Slavia	16	10	0	6	40	30	20
Apollo	16	9	1	6	37	31	19
Vic. Police	19	7	2	10	31	66	16
Ridgwood	18	5	2	11	30	40	12
R.A.A.F.	18	3	1	14	16	53	7
Union Jack	16	3	0	13	18	83	6
Heidelberg	17	2	1	14	16	56	5

Border District Association

As at August 24, 1952

Albury City	12	10	2	0	48	8	22
Wodonga	12	6	3	3	36	15	15
Mt. Beauty United	11	5	3	3	33	28	13
Bandiana	12	4	2	6	33	34	10
Bandiana Reds	5	1	0	4	9	34	2
Albury Blacks	4	0	1	3	4	22	1

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